

Amendments to the Abstract

Please amend the abstract as follows.

ABSTRACT

Drive information is updated to always include the recording/playback conditions determined from the most recent learning process on a data recording medium. The data recording medium-101 has a data recording area-104 for recording data, and a drive information area-401 for recording drive information-401a. The drive information-401a includes a plurality of drive-specific information records-401b. Each of the plural drive-specific information records 401b defines the operating conditions of the data recording and playback apparatus when a data recording and playback apparatus that can load and access the data recording medium-101 reads or writes data. The plural drive-specific information records-401a are arranged chronologically according to when the information was recorded to the data recording medium-101.